

WAC 246-237-027 Requirements for criminal history records checks of individuals granted unescorted access to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive material. (1) General performance objective and requirements.

(a) Except for those individuals listed in WAC 246-237-029 and those individuals grandfathered under WAC 246-237-025(2), each licensee subject to the provisions of this chapter shall fingerprint each individual who is to be permitted unescorted access to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive material. Licensees shall transmit all collected fingerprints to the NRC for transmission to the FBI. The licensee shall use the information received from the FBI as part of the required background investigation to determine whether to grant or deny further unescorted access to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive materials for that individual.

(b) The licensee shall notify each affected individual that their fingerprints will be used to secure a review of their criminal history record, and shall inform them of the procedures for revising the record or adding explanations to the record.

(c) Fingerprinting is not required if a licensee is reinstating an individual's unescorted access authorization to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive materials if:

(i) The individual returns to the same facility that granted unescorted access authorization within 365 days of the termination of their unescorted access authorization; and

(ii) The previous access authorization was terminated under favorable conditions.

(d) Fingerprints do not need to be taken if an individual who is an employee of a licensee, contractor, manufacturer, or supplier has been granted unescorted access to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive material, access to safeguards information, or safeguards information-modified handling by another licensee, based upon a background investigation conducted under this chapter, or the fingerprint orders, or 10 C.F.R. 73. An existing criminal history records check file may be transferred to the licensee asked to grant unescorted access in accordance with the provisions of WAC 246-237-031(3).

(e) Licensees shall use information obtained as part of a criminal history records check solely for the purpose of determining an individual's suitability for unescorted access authorization to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive materials, access to safeguards information, or safeguards information-modified handling.

(2) Prohibitions.

(a) Licensees may not base a final determination to deny an individual unescorted access authorization to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive material solely on the basis of information received from the FBI involving:

(i) An arrest more than one year old for which there is no information of the disposition of the case; or

(ii) An arrest which resulted in dismissal of the charge or an acquittal.

(b) Licensees may not use information received from a criminal history records check obtained under this chapter in a manner which would infringe upon the rights of any individual under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, nor shall licensees use the information in any way that would discriminate among individuals on the basis of race, religion, national origin, gender, or age.

(3) Procedures for processing of fingerprint checks.

(a) For the purpose of complying with this chapter, licensees shall use an appropriate method to submit to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Director, Division of Facilities and Security, 11545 Rockville Pike, ATTN: Criminal History Program/Mail Stop T-07D04M, Rockville, MD 20852, one completed, legible standard fingerprint card (Form FD-258, ORIMDNRC000Z), electronic fingerprint scan or, where practicable, other fingerprint record for each individual requiring unescorted access to Category 1 or Category 2 quantities of radioactive material. Copies of these forms may be obtained by emailing MAILSVS.Resource@nrc.gov. Guidance on submitting electronic fingerprints can be found at <https://www.nrc.gov/security/chp.html>.

(b) Fees for the processing of fingerprint checks are due upon application. Licensees shall submit payment with the application for the processing of fingerprints through corporate check, certified check, cashier's check, money order, or electronic payment, made payable to "U.S. NRC." (For guidance on making electronic payments, contact the Division of Physical and Cyber Security Policy by emailing Crimhist.resource@nrc.gov.) Combined payment for multiple applications is acceptable. The commission publishes the amount of the fingerprint check application fee on the NRC's public website. (To find the current fee amount, go to the Licensee Criminal History Records Checks and Firearms Background Check information page at <https://www.nrc.gov/security/chp.html> and see the link for How do I determine how much to pay for the request?)

(c) The commission will forward to the submitting licensee all data received from the FBI as a result of the licensee's application for criminal history records checks.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 70A.388.040 and 70A.388.110. WSR 22-11-063, § 246-237-027, filed 5/16/22, effective 6/16/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.98.050 and 70.98.110. WSR 16-13-079, § 246-237-027, filed 6/14/16, effective 7/15/16.]